

Message Text

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66

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAM-01 SAJ-01 DRC-01 /106 W

----- 104518

R 081504Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1541

INFO AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY ROME

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE VIENNA 1127

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, AU

SUBJECT: CARDINAL MINDSZENTY'S REMOVAL

REF: VIENNA 1010

1. CARDINAL MINDSZENTY ISSUED STATEMENT THE DAY AFTER HIS REMOVAL AS PRIMATE OF HUNGARY AND ARCH-BISHOP OF ESZTERGOM WAS ANNOUNCED SAYING THAT HE NEVER AGREED TO THIS DECISION WHICH WAS REACHED SOLELY BY THE HOLY SEE. REFERRING TO VATICAN'S FEBRUARY 5 ANNOUNCEMENT CONCERNING FREQUENT EXCHANGE OF CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN HIMSELF AND POPE PAUL, MINDSZENTY MAINTAINED THAT "SOME HAD DRAWN FALSE CONCLUSION THAT HE CONCURRED IN THE VATICAN'S DECISION".

2. MINDSZENTY SOUGHT TO JUSTIFY HIS REFUSAL TO RESIGN HIS POSTS VOLUNTARILY BY NOTING THAT NEITHER HUNGARY NOR THE CATHOLIC CHURCH THERE ARE NOT FREE; DIOCESE ADMINISTRATORS ARE CONTROLLED BY THE COMMUNIST REGIME; NO CHURCH LEADER FROM ARCH-BISHOP DOWN CAN ALTER COMPOSITION OF CHURCH

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ADMINISTRATION SINCE GOH DETERMINES WHO FILLS

WHAT CHURCH POST AND HOW LONG HE SHALL SERVE;
AND, DESPITE CONSTITUTIONAL GUARANTEES FOR
FREEDOM OF RELIGION AND CONSCIENCE, THEY ARE
IN PRACTICE SUPPRESSED.

3. ALLUDING TO GOH APPROVAL OF A NUMBER OF
NEW BISHOPS, MINDSZENTY DEPRECATED THIS DECISION
IN NOTING THAT UNLESS THE AFOREMENTIONED CIR-
CUMSTANCES ARE RESOLVED ASSIGNMENTS OF NEW BISHOPS
ARE VIRTUALLY USELESS. HUMES

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: RETIREMENT, RELIGIOUS LEADERS, REMOVAL FROM OFFICE, CHURCH STATE RELATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 FEB 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974VIENNA01127
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: VIENNA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740244/aaaabpfs.tel
Line Count: 71
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: VIENNA 1010
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 MAR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 MAR 2002 by garlanwa>; APPROVED <01 MAY 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CARDINAL MINDSZENTY'S REMOVAL
TAGS: PINT, PFOR, AU, VT, (MINDSZENTY, CARDINAL)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005